

We now claim:

1. A method of maintaining integrity of data in a networked system having a central server system which is network connected to a satellite server system, said central server system being more strongly protected than the satellite server system, said central server system including master data, and said satellite server system including replicated data derived from said master data, the method comprising:

determining a corruption of at least a portion of said replicated data in said satellite server system; and

responsive to said determining of corruption, replacing at least said portion of said replicated data in said satellite server system with replacement replicated data derived from said master data.

2. The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said determining includes polling said satellite server system by said central server system for an integrity status of said replicated data.

3. The method as set forth in claim 2, wherein said replacing includes sending a configuration record to said satellite server system, said configuration record indicating where said replacement replicated data is to be stored on said satellite server system.

4. The method as set forth in claim 2, wherein said determining a corruption of at least a portion of said replicated data includes sending a checking algorithm to said satellite server system, wherein said checking algorithm is used by said satellite server system to determine said integrity status of said replicated data stored on said satellite server system.

5. The method as set forth in claim 4, wherein said determining a corruption of at least a portion of said replicated data further includes sending an expected result to said satellite server system, wherein said checking algorithm checks said integrity status of said replicated data by comparing said expected result to a current result of said checking algorithm.

6. The method as set forth in claim 5, wherein said comparing said expected result to said current result of said checking algorithm includes comparing said expected result to a checksum of said replicated data.

7. The method as set forth in claim 2, further including storing a backup copy of said replicated data on said satellite server system.

8. The method as set forth in claim 7, wherein said replacing includes:
replacing at least said portion of said replicated data from said backup copy.

9. The method as set forth in claim 7, wherein said replacing includes:
replacing at least said portion of said replicated data from said backup copy; and

subsequent to the replacing from said backup copy, replacing at least said portion of said replicated data with replicated data obtained from said central server system.

10. The method as set forth in claim 2, further including logging said integrity status to a log file, wherein said log file provides a record of said satellite server system replicated data integrity.

11. The method as set forth in claim 2, further including notifying authorized users of said central server system when said integrity status indicates a corruption of at least a portion of said replicated data in said satellite server system.

12. The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said determining includes receiving a periodic status message including an integrity status of said replicated data from said satellite server system.

13. The method as set forth in claim 12, wherein said replacing at least said portion of said replicated data includes sending a configuration record to said satellite server system, said configuration record indicating where said at least a portion of said master data from said central server system is to be stored on said satellite server system.

14. The method as set forth in claim 12, wherein said determining a corruption of at least a portion of said replicated data includes sending a checking algorithm to said at least one

satellite server system, wherein said checking algorithm is used by said satellite server system to determine said integrity status of said replicated data stored on said satellite server system.

15. The method as set forth in claim 14, wherein said determining a corruption of at least a portion of said replicated data further includes sending an expected result to said satellite server system, wherein said checking algorithm checks said integrity status of said replicated data by comparing said expected result to a current result of said at least one checking algorithm.

16. The method as set forth in claim 15, wherein said comparing said expected result to said current result of said checking algorithm includes comparing said expected result to a checksum of said replicated data.

17. The method as set forth in claim 12, further including storing a backup copy of said replicated data on said satellite server system.

18. The method as set forth in claim 17, wherein said replacing includes:
replacing at least said portion of said replicated data from said backup copy.

19. The method as set forth in claim 17, wherein said replacing includes:
replacing at least said portion of said replicated data from said backup copy; and
subsequent to the replacing from said backup copy, replacing at least said portion of said replicated data with replicated data obtained from said central server system.

20. The method as set forth in claim 12, further including logging said integrity status to a log file, wherein said log file provides a record of said satellite server system replicated data integrity.

21. The method as set forth in claim 12, further including notifying authorized users of said central server system when said integrity status indicates a corruption of at least a portion of said replicated data in said satellite server system.

22. A system comprising:

a user accessible data storage;

a substantially user inaccessible data storage storing master data; and

one or more servers performing a method including:

deriving replicated data from the master data,

computing a verification record indicative of the replicated data

using a selected checking algorithm,

storing the replicated data on the user accessible data storage as

replicated data stored on the user accessible data storage,

detecting corruption of said replicated data stored on the user

accessible data storage based on the verification record, and

repeating the storing responsive to said detecting of corruption.

23. The system as set forth in claim 22, wherein the one or more servers include:
a central server communicating with the substantially user inaccessible data storage, said central server being protected by a firewall; and
a satellite server communicating with the user accessible data storage, the satellite server being connected with the central server by a network.

24. The system as set forth in claim 23, wherein the central server is generally disconnected from the network except during the storing, detecting and repeating portions of the method.

25. The system as set forth in claim 22, wherein the detecting of corruption of said replicated data includes:

applying the selected checking algorithm to said replicated data stored on the user accessible data storage; and

comparing the result of the applying with the verification record, a difference between the result of the applying and the verification record being indicative of corruption of said replicated data stored on the user accessible data storage.

26. A computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable program code embodied in said medium for use in maintaining integrity of data of a user-accessible satellite server, the computer readable program code comprising:

program code for deriving replicated data from a master database;

program code for applying a checking algorithm to the replicated data to produce a verification record;

program code for storing the replicated data on the user-accessible satellite server as satellite server-stored replicated data;

program code for applying the checking algorithm to said satellite server-stored replicated data to produce a status record; and

program code for producing a corrective action responsive to comparison of the status record and the verification record indicating a corruption of said satellite server-stored replicated data.

27. The computer program product as set forth in claim 26, wherein the corrective action includes:

invoking at least the program code for storing the replicated data on the user-accessible satellite server to re-store the replicated data on the user-accessible satellite server.

28. The computer program product as set forth in claim 26, wherein the corrective action includes:

producing a human-perceptible output indicating corruption of said satellite server-stored replicated data.

29. The computer program product as set forth in claim 26, wherein said program code for deriving replicated data from a master database includes:

program code for retrieving data from the master database; and

program code for modifying or reorganizing the retrieved data to produce the replicated data.

30. The computer program product as set forth in claim 26, wherein the program code further includes:

program code for connecting a central server supporting the master database to a network to enable communication between the central server and the user-accessible satellite server and for disconnecting the central server from the network when communication between the central server and the user-accessible satellite server is not being performed.